

In the Claims:

Claims 3-4, 9, and 14 have been canceled previously. Please cancel claims 13 and 17 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1, 5-7, 15, 16, 18, 19, and 21 as shown below. Please insert new claims 24-26 as shown below.

1. (Currently amended) A device for collecting biological samples comprising:
 - (i) at least one collection protrusion, which is attached to the body of the device, comprising at least one tip;
 - (ii) at least one pad for contacting the tip, wherein the pad comprises chemical preservatives or enzyme inhibitors;
 - (iii) at least one cap, which is coated with silica gel, a molecular sieve, or a desiccant and capable of sealingly enclosing the device; and
 - (iv) at least one aeration hole.
2. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the tip is a wick, spoon, pick, or swab.
- 3-4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the cap is connected to the device ~~and is coated with silica gel, a molecular sieve, or a desiccant.~~
6. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the cap is detached from the device ~~and is coated with silica gel, a molecular sieve, or a desiccant.~~

7. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the cap slidably encloses the device ~~and is coated with silica gel, a molecular sieve, or a desiccant.~~

8. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the device is made of plastic.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, further comprising material with instructions on using the device.

11. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein the instructions are in written form.

12. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein at least one collection protrusion is foldable or removable.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) ~~The device according to claim 13;~~ A device for collecting biological samples comprising:

(i) at least one collection protrusion comprising at least one tip;

(ii) at least one pad for contacting the tip;

- (iii) a storage area for collecting liquid and/or solid sample, wherein inside of the liquid storage area is coated with a chemical preservative or enzyme inhibitor; and
- (iv) at least one aeration hole,

wherein the liquid storage area is fitted with a syringe.

16. (Currently amended) The device according to claim ~~13~~ 15, wherein the syringe is fitted with a unidirectional piston.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) ~~The device according to claim 17,~~ A device for collecting biological samples comprising:

- (i) at least one collection protrusion comprising at least one tip;
- (ii) at least one pad for contacting the tip;
- (iii) a storage area for collecting liquid and/or solid sample, wherein inside of the liquid storage area is coated with a chemical preservative or enzyme inhibitor; and
- (iv) at least one aeration hole,

wherein the ~~tubing is~~ liquid storage area is fitted with capillary tube.

19. (Currently amended) The device according to claim ~~13~~ 15, comprising an area for gathering a solid sample.

20. (Original) The device according to claim 19, wherein the solid sample collection area comprises a lid.

21. (Currently amended) The device according to claim ~~13~~ 15, wherein at least one collection protrusion is foldable or removable.

22. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the chemical preservatives or enzyme inhibitors is selected from a group consisting of DNase inhibitors, EDTA, buffers, sodium azide, sodium benzoate, procline, and thimerosal.

23. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 12, wherein the collection protrusion is foldable around a hinge.

24. (New) The device according to claim 18, comprising an area for gathering a solid sample.

25. (New) The device according to claim 24, wherein the solid sample collection area comprises a lid.

26. (New) The device according to claim 18, wherein at least one collection protrusion is foldable or removable.